

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A process for accelerating the setting of construction chemistry products containing hydraulically setting binders, comprising adding an accelerant composition containing a water-redispersible polymer powder composition consisting essentially of a) homo- or copolymers of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of unbranched or branched C₁₋₁₅ alkylcarboxylic acids, methacrylic esters and acrylic esters of C₁₋₁₅ alcohols, vinylaromatics, olefins, dienes, and vinyl halides, and one or more protective colloids, and optionally, one or more antiblocking agent(s), and b) one or more accelerant compounds selected from the group of alkali metal salts and alkaline earth metal salts of organic C₁₋₄ carboxylic acids, added to said water-redispersible polymer following polymerization, the accelerant(s) being present in an amount of from 3 weight percent to 20 weight percent based on the total weight of the redispersible powder composition.

10. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein said accelerant compound(s) comprise magnesium or calcium salts of C₁₋₄ carboxylic acids.

11. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein said accelerant compound(s) comprise calcium salts of C₁₋₄ carboxylic acids.

12. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the homo- or copolymers consist of at least one of vinyl acetate homopolymers, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene and with one or more other vinyl esters, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene and acrylic ester, copolymers of vinyl acetate with ethylene and vinyl chloride, styrene-acrylic ester copolymers, or styrene-1,3-butadiene copolymers.

13. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein said protective colloid comprises partially hydrolyzed or fully hydrolyzed, optionally hydrophobicized polyvinyl alcohols having a degree of hydrolysis of from 80 to 100 mol% and having a Höppler viscosity of from 1 to 30 mPas in 4% strength aqueous solution.

14. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the amount of the setting-accelerant component b), based on the total weight of the redispersible powder composition, is from 3 to 15% by weight.

15. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the construction chemistry product is one selected from the group consisting of construction adhesives, tile adhesives, exterior insulation system adhesives, plasters and renders, trowelling compositions, floor-filling compositions, self-leveling compositions, sealing slurries, jointing mortars, and paints.

16. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the construction chemistry product is a spray mortar or spray concrete for construction work in civil or structural engineering, or in the lining of tunnel walls.

17. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the water-redispersible polymer powder composition comprises a vinyl acetate and ethylene copolymer stabilized by a polyvinyl alcohol protective colloid.

18. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 9, wherein ~~the water-redispersible polymer powder composition~~ said homo- or copolymers of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of unbranched or branched C₁₋₁₅ alkylcarboxylic acids, methacrylic esters and acrylic esters of C₁₋₁₅ alcohols, vinylaromatics, olefins, dienes, and vinyl halides consists essentially of a vinyl acetate and ethylene copolymer stabilized by a partially hydrolyzed hydrophobicized polyvinyl alcohol protective colloid.

19. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 9, wherein ~~the water-redispersible polymer powder composition~~ said homo- or copolymers of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of unbranched or branched C₁₋₁₅ alkylcarboxylic acids, methacrylic esters and acrylic esters of C₁₋₁₅ alcohols, vinylaromatics, olefins, dienes, and vinyl halides consists of a copolymer of vinyl acetate, ethylene, and at least one vinyl ester other than vinyl acetate, stabilized by a polyvinyl alcohol protective colloid.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, where the vinyl ester other than vinyl acetate is selected from the group consisting of vinyl propionate, vinyl laurate, and vinyl esters of α -branched C₉₋₁₃ carboxylic acids.

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 9, wherein the accelerant(s) are added to an aqueous dispersion of redispersible polymer, and the resultant mixture is spray dried to produce the accelerant composition.